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March 26, 2009

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **NOTIFICATION THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH HAS
EXECUTED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH
MODERNHEALTH INC. AND PREMIER PHARMACY SERVICES TO
PROVIDE COORDINATED DISPENSING OF MEDICATION DURING A
BIOTERRORISM OR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

This is advise you that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with ModernHealth Inc. and Premier Pharmacy Services to work cooperatively and collaboratively with the Department of Public Health (DPH) to deliver medications to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and private homes with the homebound, in the event of a major bioterrorism/public health emergency in Los Angeles County. Given the approximately 10 million people, 88 cities, and over 4000 square miles that make up Los Angeles County, timely dispensing of medication to all or a portion of its residents is a challenge. It may be especially challenging to deliver medications to the hundreds of nursing homes, assisted living facilities and private homes with the homebound located throughout the County. As a result, DPH is seeking to enter into informal agreements with private sector companies that have expertise in delivering pharmaceuticals and that can ultimately assist in this endeavor. This MOU has been reviewed and approved by County Counsel.

In addition, DPH is currently working on other MOUs for transportation and delivery of medication to pre-identified locations in Los Angeles County.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know.

JEF:sr
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c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors